

REMARKS

Claims 1-85 are pending in the application, of these claims 2-85 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim 1 stands rejected.

Claims 1-85 have been cancelled.

Claims 86-123 have been added.

Formal Matters

Applicants have canceled claims 1-85 (which included previously pending claim 1 and withdrawn claims 2-85) by the present amendment. In light of the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action (dated 1/14/04), Applicants have chosen to present withdrawn claims 48-85 for examination, which appear as new claims 86-123.

Applicants respectfully note that a total of 85 claims (including 4 independent claims) were previously paid for in the present application. Applicants therefore believe no further claims fees are due for the newly added claims, in light of the withdrawn claims being canceled in the present response (as reflected in the transmittal letter accompanying this response).

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Horst et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,233,702 (Horst). Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is now moot in light of the fact that Claim 1 has been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

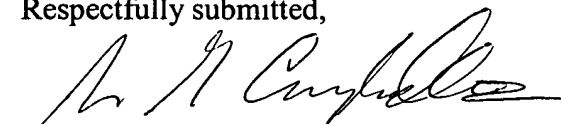
In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5084.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 14, 2004.

 5/14/04

Attorney for Applicants Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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